

Hazardous Materials Commission

Draft Minutes Operations Committee

June 10, 2022

Members and Alternates

Present: Tim Bancroft, Fred Glueck, Steve Linsley, Treston Shull, Heather Youngs (alternate),

Absent: Marielle Boortz, Gabe Quinto,

Staff: Michael Kent, Matt Kaufmann, Susan Psara

Members of the Public: None

1) Call to order, announcements:

Commissioner Glueck called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Michael Kent made the following announcements:

- The next annual Commission meeting will a County Supervisor will be with Supervisor Gioia on June 20th at 3:00 pm
- Dr. Henry Clark, long-time Commission member and Environmental Justice advocate, passed away recently. A memorial is being planned for the fall, and more information will be provided when it is available.

2) Approval of Minutes:

Approval of the minutes from the May 13, 2022 meeting were moved by Commissioner Linsley, seconded by Commissioner Youngs and approved with corrections by a vote of 4-0 with Commissioner Shull arriving after the vote.

3) Public Comments: None

4) Old Business:

a) Review proposed amendments to the County's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy

The committee reviewed proposed amendments to the County's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy that the committee had agreed upon and referred to the full Commission at their May 13th committee meeting. But since the Commission did not have time at their May 23rd meeting to consider the recommendations, the committee reviewed the specific written proposal staff had developed after the discussion and vote at the May 13th committee meeting. The committee made some changes to the wording of the recommendation and referred the following to the full Commission for consideration:

Use of Treated Wood in indoor or outdoor applications

In Section 3, either in Green Building section or Toxics and Pollutants section:

- Contra Costa County will use treated wood without chromium, arsenic and pentachlorophenol for applications specifying treat wood
- To the extent practicable, Contra Costa County shall purchase alternatives to treated wood in indoor and outdoor applications
- If no practicable alternatives to treated wood are available for an intended use, Contra Costa County shall purchase the least-toxic treated wood that that meets the specifications of the intended use, based on criteria developed by the County.

Use of products potentially containing PFAS (per- and poly- fluoroalkyl substances)

In section 3 in the Toxics and Pollutants section

- Contra Costa County shall purchase disposable food ware, including, but not limited to, serving vessels, eating utensils, straws, food boxes, and disposable plates, bowls, or trays that does not contain PFAS that has been intentionally added to the product or is at or above 100 parts per million, as measured in total organic fluorine, as determined by a third-party certification system such as GreenScreen Certified.
- Contra Costa shall purchase materials designated as compostable only if the third-party certification system used to certify materials as compostable requires that the materials be free of intentionally added PFAS or the product is at or above 100 parts per million, as measured in total organic fluorine, such as the Biodegradable Products Institute.
- Contra Costa County shall purchase products to the extent possible that do not contain PFAS that has been intentionally added to the product or is at or above 100 parts per million, as measured in total organic fluorine, as determined by a third-party certification system such as GreenScreen Certified.

b) Review the latest draft of the Sea Level Rise section of the Health and Safety Element of the draft update to the County's General Plan to compare against previous Commission recommendations

The committee reviewed and discussed a comparison staff had prepared between the recommendations the Commission made to the Board of Supervisors' Transportation, Water and Infrastructure committee on September 13, 2021 concerning sea level rise, and policies and action items in the Health and Safety Element of the draft update to the General Plan that corresponded to these recommendations.

The committee determined the policies and action items in the draft update to the General Plan reasonably addressed the Commission's concerns and did not recommend any additional policies or actions for the full Commission to consider.

5) New Business:

a) Interview Candidates for the General Public Alternate seat

The committee interviewed Jack Bean and Steve Cox for the General Public Alternate Seat. They then considered these two candidates and Gretchen Salter, who interviewed at the May Operations committee for the seat.

Commissioner Shull made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bancroft, to recommend that the Commission refer Jack Bean to the Board of Supervisors for the seat. The motion passed 5-0.

b) Interview Candidates for the Environmental Justice seat

The committee interviewed Maureen Brennan for the Environmental Justice Seat. Elizabeth Ramirez was also scheduled to be interviewed, but she did not join the meeting for the interview, did not notify the Commission ahead of time that she would not be able to attend, and did not respond to phone or e-mail messages sent to her during the meeting.

The committee discussed Ms. Brennan's application and interview. They also debated whether or not to offer Ms. Ramirez another opportunity to interview but decided against it. Commissioner Glueck made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bancroft, to recommend that the Commission refer Maureen Brennan to the Board of Supervisor for the seat. The motion passed 5-0.

6) Plan Next Agenda: The committee did not have any new agenda items for the next meeting.

7) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.